



**DEMOCRACY
FORWARD
FOUNDATION**

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202-448-9090
foia@democracyforward.org

May 19, 2017

VIA ONLINE SUBMISSION

Larry Gottesman
National Freedom of Information Officer
(2822T)
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Freedom of Information Act Records Request

Dear Mr. Gottesman:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552 *et seq.*, and the Environmental Protection Agency FOIA regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Democracy Forward Foundation makes the following request for records.

Democracy Forward Foundation requests that the Environmental Protection Agency produce the following within twenty (20) business days:

- (1) All records that refer or relate to the use of Signal, WhatsApp, ProtonMail, Tor, Snapchat, Slack, Wickr, Secure Chat, Telegram, Summa Secure Messaging, CoverMe, Enkrypt, Ceerus, Pryvate, SaltDNA Enterprise, Blackphone, and other applications that allow for encrypted or evanescent communication.

The time period for this request is January 20, 2017, to the date the search is conducted.

Please search for records regardless of format, including paper records, electronic records, audiotapes, videotapes, photographs, data, and graphical materials. This request includes, without limitation, all correspondence, letters, emails, text messages, calendar entries, facsimiles, telephone messages, voice mail messages, and transcripts, notes, minutes, or audio or video recordings of any meetings, telephone conversations, or discussions.

FOIA requires agencies to disclose information, with only limited exceptions for information that would harm an interest protected by a specific exemption or where disclosure is prohibited by law. 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(8)(A). In the event that any of the requested documents cannot be

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disclosed in their entirety, we request that you release any material that can be reasonably segregated. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(b). Should any documents or portions of documents be withheld, we further request that you state with specificity the description of the document to be withheld and the legal and factual grounds for withholding any documents or portions thereof in an index as required by *Vaughn v. Rosen*, 484 F.2d 820 (D.C. Cir. 1973). Should any document include both disclosable and non-disclosable material that cannot reasonably be segregated, we request that you describe what proportion of the information in a document is non-disclosable and how that information is dispersed throughout the document. *Mead Data Cent., Inc. v. U.S. Dep't of Air Force*, 566 F.2d 242, 261 (D.C. Cir. 1977).

If requested records are located in, or originated in, another agency, department, office, installation or bureau, please refer this request or any relevant portion of this request to the appropriate entity.

To the extent that the records are readily reproducible in an electronic format, we would prefer to receive the records in that format. However, if certain records are not available in that format, we are willing to accept the best available copy of each such record.

Please respond to this request in writing within 20 working days as required under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A)(i). If all of the requested documents are not available within that time period, we request that you provide us with all requested documents or portions of documents that are available within that time period. If all relevant records are not produced within that time period, we are entitled to a waiver of fees for searching and duplicating records under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(viii)(I).

Democracy Forward Foundation is a nonprofit organization organized under Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3) and dedicated to educating the public about the operation of the federal government. The records we obtain from this request will be used to support those public education efforts, and we intend to disseminate publicly an analysis of those records. As a nonprofit organization, we do not have a commercial interest in the records. We therefore request a waiver of fees for searching and duplicating records in response to this request under the exception at 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii), which requires waiver of fees if the disclosure is "in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester." If our request for a waiver is denied, we are willing to pay all reasonable fees incurred for searching and duplicating records in responding to this request, up to \$250. If the costs of responding to this request should exceed that amount, please contact us before incurring costs exceeding that amount.

If you need clarification as to the scope of the request, have any questions, or foresee any

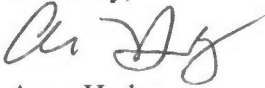
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obstacles to releasing fully the requested records within the 20 day period, please contact Karianne Jones as soon as possible at foia@democracyforward.org or (202) 448-9090.

We appreciate your assistance and look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Harkavy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anne Harkavy
Democracy Forward Foundation